Without Their Knowledge

FBI Uses Suspects' Families as Informers

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Additional stolen documents reveal that the Federal Bureau of Investigation uses relatives of persons under surveillance as informants, sometimes without their knowing they are dealing with the FBI.

A mother in Drexel Hill, Pa., was called by an agent who said he was a friend of her daughter. She provided details about her daughter's present work and background, according to one document.

Another document implies that an informant suggested that the wife of a Black Panther leader in Philadelphia be asked to provide the FBI with information about her husband.

An informant recommended on Jan. 22, according to the document, that the Black Panther's wife be "contacted" because she "is very angry at" her husband "now and may be receptive."

There is no indication whether the FBI or its informant followed the suggestion. Nor is there any indication why the man was under surveillance.

Reached by phone yesterday, the woman said she had never knowingly been asked to provide information to the FBI.

Document Total 31

Of the nine documents received by The Washington Post yesterday, three were duplicates of documents received earlier from the Citizens' Commission to Investigate the FBI. In all, copies of 31 different documents, some of them partial, have been distributed by the group.

The Citizens Commission, through anonymous statements accompanying the documents it has distributed, has taken responsibility for the March 8 raid on the FBI's Media, Pa., office.

Justice Department sources here confirmed the authenticity of the first group of documents sent out by the thieves and said more than 1,000 documents had been stolen in the raid.

Reuss Daughter Cited

A statement accompanying the latest set said the documents have been sent to Sens. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) and Charles McC. Mathias Jr. (R-Md.). It previously was reported that they had been received by Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) and Rep. Parren J. Mitchell (D-Md.).

The daughter of Rep. Henry S. Reuss, a Wisconsin Democrat who is opposed to the Vietnam war, was under FBI surveillance, according to one of the stolen documents.

Written last Nov. 19, the memo on Jacqueline Reuss, 21, was based on information provided by a secretary in the registrar's office at Swarthmore College, where Miss Reuss is a senior.

Swarthmore president Robert Cross said Friday that faculty, students and staff members who divulge confidential information risk dismissal. Documents sent earlier indicated that other employees at the college were FBI sources.

The mother of the young woman from Drexel Hill, Pa. was called Nov. 20, 1970, by Special Agent James L. O'Connor, according to one document.

His call to her is described in the document as "a pretext telephone call." Elaborating, the document says, "pretext of a friend passing through Philadelphia, Pa." The document continues:

"Subject's mother informed that subject is presently working as a receptionist at the main office of the Industrial Valley Bank and Trust Company . . . She further advised that captioned subject had majored in journalism while at Ohio university and was scheduled to graduate in June of 1970 but learned that she was one credit short for the requirements for a degree."

The Cincinnati FBI office is advised in the Philadelphia document on the young woman to "review records at the School of Journalism for background regarding subject and conduct pertinent investigation as set forth in referenced letters."

The memo concludes: "Will contact established sources and informants for background information relative to subject."